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March 22, 1995

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Re: CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap
Performance Review for Local
Exchange Carriers: EX PARTE

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

On March 30, the FCC will make a decision about price cap regulation. You are familiar with our proposal to redirect the Consumer Productivity Dividend (CPD) to help connect schools and libraries to the NII.

We want to take one last opportunity to urge you and Commissioners Barrett, Chong, Ness, and Quello to adopt our proposal. Our coalition includes the American Library Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Education Association, and the National School Boards Association. We are enclosing a collection of the letters of endorsement our supporters have sent to the FCC; it includes many other individuals, associations, organizations, and Members of Congress. As you can see, they believe our proposal is the best opportunity for a giant step toward equity of access to telecommunications technology for schools and libraries.

"The Survey of Advanced Telecommunications in U.S. Public Schools, K-12" done by the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office of Education Research and Improvement (February 1995) documents the challenge we face as a nation. We are attaching a synopsis of its findings.

The American Electronics Association (AEA) released a major survey on March 20, 1995, which found that only 59% of the respondents who were teachers have multimedia capabilities available to them, 29% have networked computers, and 20% have an Internet connection. Only 17% of the teachers indicated that on-line services were available to them. The key findings showed that more than 75% of the survey respondents believe that the information superhighway will alleviate such problems as a lack of student motivation and obsolete curriculum. Budget constraints, the

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lack of equipment and lack of training were seen as the major roadblocks to applying information technologies.


In summary, the survey says that although 35% of public schools have access to the Internet, only 3% of all instructional rooms in public schools are connected to the Net. Funding is the major barrier. Only 40% of public schools having computers with telecommunication capabilities are in the classroom; however, the types of telecommunications most often located in classrooms are broadcast television and cable television. For the 49% of public schools having access to the Internet or any other wide area network connection, 11% of the usage is by administrative staff; only 3% of schools indicate that students and 2% indicate that teachers use the network to a large extent.

"Public Libraries and the Internet," a 1994 study by the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, found that almost 21% of public libraries are connected to the Internet, although 13% of small rural libraries are connected. Half of libraries connected had only low-level dial-up connections, and few public libraries offer direct public access to the Internet. A summary of that report is also attached.


Both you and the Administration have taken a strong and admirable stand on the need for connecting schools and libraries to the NII. In the current budget climate, this will prove to be an increasingly difficult commitment to meet. Our CPD proposal avoids burdening the federal budget while it helps address the connectivity problem in a creative manner that promotes private/public sector partnerships that the Administration and the FCC have advocated.

In closing, we believe our proposal is the only viable solution on the horizon and it would only be a partial solution. By acting now, the FCC can enable a critical mass of connectivity for classrooms and libraries to the NII so learners of all ages, regardless of where they live, can have access to telecommunications technology, the key to success in the future.

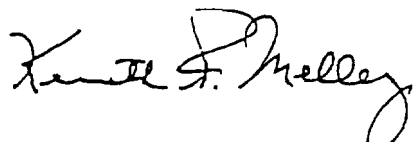
Sincerely,



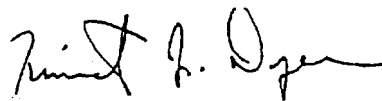
Arthur Curley
President
American Library Association



Gordon M. Ambach
Executive Director
Council of Chief State
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Kenneth F. Melley
Assistant Executive Director
National Education Association



Timothy J. Dyer
Executive Director
National Association of
Secondary School Principals



Thomas A. Shannon
Executive Director
National School Boards Association

Attachments
Enclosure

cc: FCC Commissioners
William A. Caton

Selected Findings

The Survey of Advanced Telecommunications in U.S. Public Schools, K-12 requested information regarding the availability and use of telecommunications, plans to implement or upgrade wide area connections, access to the Internet and selected Internet capabilities, and barriers schools face to the acquisition or use of advanced telecommunications. The data were gathered from a nationally representative sample of 1,380 public elementary and secondary schools in fall 1994.

- Overall, 35 percent of public schools have access to the Internet but only 3 percent of all instructional rooms (classrooms, labs and media centers) in public schools are connected to the Internet. Only 30 percent of public elementary schools have Internet access compared with 49 percent for secondary schools (table 5).
- Funding is the major barrier most often cited in the acquisition or use of advanced telecommunications in public schools. Schools cited funding as a major barrier 69 percent of the time which ranks first in a list of potential barriers (table 14). Other major barriers most often cited were lack of equipment or poor equipment (50 percent) and too few access points in the school building (47 percent).
- Seventy-five percent of public schools have computers with some type of telecommunication capabilities (i.e., local area networks or wide area networks), 74 percent have cable television, and 70 percent have access to broadcast television in their schools (table 2).
- Only 40 percent of public schools having computers with telecommunication capabilities indicated that they were located in classrooms (table 2). However, the types of telecommunications most often located in classrooms are broadcast television and cable television. Although 94 percent of schools with closed-circuit television reported it was in classrooms, only 25 percent of schools had this capability.
- While 75 percent of public schools have access to some kind of computer network, only 49 percent have access to a wide area network--35 percent of public schools have access to the Internet and 14 percent have access to other wide area networks (e.g., CompuServe, America Online, Prodigy; table 3).
- Sixty-seven percent of public schools have plans to implement or upgrade a wide area computer network (table 4). Of these, 81 percent indicate that their telecommunications plans are part of a district-level plan, 48 percent are part of a school-based plan, 27 percent are part of a state plan, and 19 percent are part of a regional plan.

- In the Southeast, schools are about twice as likely to report statewide telecommunications plans than schools in the other regions of the country--41 percent for the Southeast as compared with 20, 22, or 26 percent in the other regions (table 4).
- Smaller schools with enrollments of less than 300 are less likely to be on the Internet than schools with larger enrollment sizes. Only 30 percent of small schools reported having Internet access, while 58 percent of schools with enrollments of 1,000 or more reported having Internet access (table 5).

For the 35 percent of public schools having access to the Internet:

- E-mail is the most widely available Internet capability. Ninety percent of schools on the Internet indicate E-mail is available at their school (table 6). News groups and resource location services (Gopher, Archie, Veronica, etc.) are available in 64 and 62 percent of the schools, respectively. Only 21 percent of the schools report having some graphical user interface capabilities such as MOSAIC.
- Each of these Internet capabilities (E-mail, news groups, resource location services, and graphical user interface) is more often available for teachers and administrative staff than for students. Eighty-five to 94 percent of schools with Internet access indicated availability for teachers and 66 to 79 percent indicated availability for administrative staff as compared to 43 to 54 percent of schools reporting that the capabilities were available for students (table 6).
- The number of instructional rooms connected to the Internet varies greatly--51 percent of the schools with Internet have a connection in one instructional room, 27 percent have connections in two or three instructional rooms, 5 percent have connections in four instructional rooms and 8 percent have connections in five or more instructional rooms (table 7).

For the 49 percent¹ of public schools having access to the Internet or any other wide area network connection:

- Eleven percent of the schools having access to wide area networks indicate that administrative staff use those networks to a large extent but only 3 percent indicate that students and 2 percent indicate that teachers use the network to a large extent (table 11).
- The overwhelming majority of schools that are connected to any wide area network use modems (97 percent; table 8).
- The responsibility for administering the wide area networks in 51 percent of the schools is assigned to a part-time network administrator (table 9). Only 9 percent of the schools indicate that the person responsible for administering the network is a full-time network administrator. Sixteen percent indicate that someone from the district staff administers their network and 24 percent report that no single individual is responsible.
- Large schools (enrollment of 1,000 or more) are about twice as likely to have a full-time network administrator than smaller schools--17 percent as compared to 7 or 9 percent (table 9).
- About 70 percent of schools having access to wide area networks provide training to the administrative staff and teachers. This training is provided more often by the school district than by the schools (table 10). Training for students also is provided in about half of the schools and for parents in 20 percent of schools. However, training for students and parents is more often provided by the school rather than the district.
- Schools with access to wide area networks indicate that district and regional administrators (48 percent) and teachers and other staff (33 percent) are the two groups most likely to play a large formal role in developing the school's telecommunications program (table 12).
- According to 89 percent of schools with wide area network access, decisions concerning the school's telecommunications budget are made most frequently by the school district (table 13). Fifty-nine percent also report that their school is responsible for making decisions concerning the telecommunications budget. Only 22 percent of schools indicated state influence on these budget decisions and 15 percent indicated that their regional administrator was responsible for making decisions on the school's telecommunications budget.

¹The estimated percent of schools having access to the Internet or any other wide area network connection--49 percent of public schools--is based upon a variable which was derived from two items on the questionnaire. It is an unduplicated count of those schools indicating that they have access to either the Internet or any other wide area network (e.g., CompuServe, America Online, Prodigy; table 3).



National Commission on
Libraries and Information Science

Public Libraries and the Internet:

Study Results, Policy Issues, and
Recommendations

Final Report

June 1994





United States
National Commission on
Libraries and Information Science

June 1994

Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

The members of the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) are pleased to present this report on Public Libraries and the Internet: Study Results, Policy Issues, and Recommendations. The report results from the Commission's mandate to study the means by which the informational needs of the Nation are satisfied.

The Commission is concerned that public libraries offer advanced telecommunications and information services that benefit local communities. Just as they have offered open access to recorded knowledge since the earliest days of our Nation's history, public libraries have a vital role in assuring that advanced information services are universally available to all segments of the population on an equitable basis.

The Commission's systematic examination of public libraries and the Internet is based on the belief that publicly-supported community libraries are a critical component of the National Information Infrastructure (NII) initiative. The survey provides initial baseline data about Internet connectivity for public libraries. The research shows that the NII's capability to extend and enhance information access is not yet widely available to the Nation's 9,050 public libraries.

The National Commission's survey of public library involvement with Internet, the global computer network of interconnected networks, shows the following:

- 20.9% of public libraries are connected to the Internet
- Public library access to the Internet is not equitable

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-
- Public libraries serving larger communities are more likely to have access to Internet than public libraries serving smaller communities
 - There are regional variations in public library Internet connectivity
 - Few public libraries offer direct public access to the Internet
 - Public libraries are using Internet services to
 - procure answers to reference inquiries
 - access federal information resources
 - perform interlibrary loan transactions
 - There are wide variations in public library Internet costs
 - libraries for smaller populations report annual costs of \$412
 - libraries for larger populations report annual costs of \$14,697
 - Federal assistance for connecting public libraries to the Internet is required

The NCLIS survey responds to a question raised at a July, 1993 policy discussion meeting held at the Library of Congress. At this meeting, Vice President Gore asked to what degree public libraries can serve as a "safety net" for access to Internet information and services. The Vice President also raised issues related to how the Internet could provide better social equity for the public. The current National data about public libraries and the Internet contained in this report are intended to help make informed decisions about future government roles involving public libraries and the information infrastructure.

The Commission's report shows that public libraries are making progress in connecting to the Internet and by extending the benefits of advanced information services to their patrons. This progress, however, requires assistance if we are to assure that the information superhighway of the future will not bypass critical segments of the American people.

We look forward to working with you to achieve the vision so clearly articulated in your State of the Union Address "...to connect every classroom, every clinic, every LIBRARY, every hospital in America into a national information superhighway by the year 2000."

Sincerely,



Jeanne Hurley Simon
Chairperson

The alliance of education and library organizations who are participating in the filing are:

American Library Association
Council of Chief State School Officers
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Education Association
National School Boards Association

Endorsements have been received from:

American Association of School Administrators
Arkansas Library Association
Association for Educational Communications & Technology
Barbara O'Connor, Director of the Institute for the Study of Politics and Media
at California State University
Chief Officers of State Library Agencies
Congressman Major R. Owens
Congressman William D. Ford
Consortium for School Networking
Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility
Idaho Library Association
Laramie County Library Association
Maine Library Association
Mountain Plains Library Association
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association State Boards of Education
National PTA
New Jersey Library Association
Ohio Library Council
Oregon Library Association
Pennsylvania Library Association
Rural Electrification Administration
Senator Barbara Mikulski
Texas Library Association
West Virginia Library Association
West Virginia Library Commission

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS



July 26, 1994

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The American Association of School Administrators, representing more than 16,000 local superintendents and school executives, wishes to express our support for the Reply Comments filed with the Commission on June 29, 1994, in the matter of Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers (LEC); CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers.

We agree with the American Library Association, The Council of Chief State School Officers, The National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Education Association, and the National School Boards Association, that price cap regulations should be reformed to "provide those positive financial incentives to urge LEC investment in communications technology for education and libraries."

We also support the 0.5 percent "credit bank," which could only be claimed by LECs if they invested in education-related National Information Infrastructure systems and technologies that have a meaningful, carefully thought-out, and demonstrated connection with learning in individual schools, school systems, and libraries.

We appreciate having the opportunity to present our views.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Houston
Executive Director

ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

1100 North University ♦ Suite 109 ♦ Little Rock, AR 72207 ♦ (501) 661-1127



March 10, 1995

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Arkansas Library Association strongly urges you and your colleagues on the Federal Communications Commission to revise the FCC price cap regulation plan as a means of financing the development of the National Information Infrastructure (*CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers*).

As in many other states, Arkansas has experienced growing activity in recent years in telecommunications. A number of projects have been planned or implemented which have a positive impact on the education and economic sections of the state.

Although progress has been made, only 2 out of 209 public libraries and 95 out of 312 school districts have been connected to the Internet. There is still a great need for significant telecommunications infrastructure improvements in the state, especially in rural communities. The FCC proposal would not conflict with but would greatly compliment our state's initiatives.

Libraries not only in Arkansas but in every state must gain affordable access to the "information superhighway" as soon as possible to meet the ever-increasing information needs of millions of Americans. The estimated \$300 million per year that local telephone companies could use to finance investments in library and education infrastructure in their service territories will certainly advance the goal to connect every library and classroom to the NII.

We urge your careful consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jenelle Stephens". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name and title.

Jenelle Stephens
President

cc: Commissioners Chong, Ness, Quello, and Barrett
FCC Secretary William A. Caton



Association for Educational
Communications & Technology

1025 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 820, Washington, DC 20005-3547
(202) 347-7834 FAX (202) 347-7839

March 7, 1995

Re: C Docket 94-1: Price Cap
Performance Review for Local
Exchange Carriers: EX PARTE

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

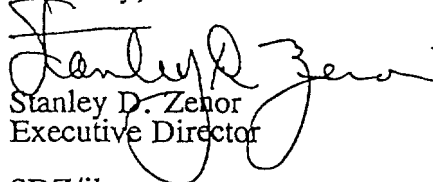
Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology's (AECT) members, I would like to strongly encourage that the FCC adopt the proposal filed by the Education/Library Coalition members: the American Library Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Education Association, and the National School Boards Association. Their filing asks that the FCC redirect the Consumer Productivity Dividend (CPD) to help connect schools and libraries to the NII.

Our national membership includes 4500 educational and instructional technology professionals working in K-12 schools, higher education and the private sector, as well as over 25,000 members of our affiliated organizations in all fifty states, all of whom are concerned about the equity of learning opportunities for students of all ages. The mission of AECT is to promote the effective application of technology in the teaching/learning process. We believe the coalition's proposal is an appropriate use of regulatory incentive to benefit students and learners of all ages and that the proposal is in strong accord with our mission.

We ask for your support for the coalition's innovative solution. Please encourage the other Commissioners to give it their serious consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Cordially,



Stanley D. Zenor
Executive Director

SDZ/jl

cc: FCC Commissioners
William F. Caton, Secretary to FCC (2 copies)

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March 16, 1995

Re: CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap
Performance Review for Local
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Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt: *Reed*

As a professor of Communication, in the Communication Studies Department, and as the Director of the Institute for the Study of Politics and Media at California State University in Sacramento, I urge you and Commissioners Barrett, Chong, Ness, and Quello to adopt the proposal filed by the education and library coalition. Their proposal asks the FCC to redirect the Consumer Productivity Dividend (CPD) to help connect schools and libraries to the NII. The coalition includes the American Library Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Education Association, and the National School Boards Association, as well as many other associations, organizations, and Members of Congress who have endorsed their proposal.

As former chair of California Education Technology Commission, I have worked diligently, along with many of my colleagues in the state, to assure equity of excellent learning opportunities for all students. I especially support the coalition's March 6 recommendation to the FCC that priority be given to multi-year plans from schools and libraries in disadvantaged areas, with preference given to plans that would network communities.

I know your vision includes connectivity for classrooms and libraries; please encourage the other Commissioners to support the coalition's innovative solution for helping our nation's students. The proposal is an appropriate use of regulatory incentive to benefit consumers, especially those in disadvantaged areas, who will shape the future of our nation. It is an investment that will bring on-going and healthy dividends to our country. The problem is too large to be solved by this effort alone but this use of the CPD will allow a critical mass of connectivity that's long overdue.

Sincerely,

Barbara

Barbara O'Connor

cc: FCC Commissioners
William F. Caton, Secretary to FCC



CHIEF OFFICERS OF STATE LIBRARY AGENCIES

October 31, 1994

Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: FCC Comprehensive Review of the Performance of LECs Under Price Cap Regulation ...
CC Docket 94-1.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies urge the Federal Communications Commission to allow LECs to use the Consumer Productivity Dividend to provide credits for the wiring of public libraries and schools.

It is essential for this nation's future that access to the emerging Global Information Highway is readily available to students in our schools and public libraries. The only competitive advantage that a nation can have in a knowledge based world economy is to have more information more rapidly available to more of its workers, learners and citizens.

The use of the Consumer Productivity Dividend to support libraries and schools would extend a benefit to all citizens of the nation and impact favorably on the welfare of future generations through the improved education of today's students.

Please make every effort to provide these credits for telecommunication to public libraries and schools.

Yours truly,

J. Maurice Travillian
President

President
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Angela Crouch, Staff Contact

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MAJOR R. OWENS

11TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON
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September 1, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Suite 814
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the innovative proposal on "Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers" (cc Docket 94-1) submitted by the Education and Library Alliance to connect schools and libraries to the National Information Infrastructure (NII).

As a librarian, I cannot stress enough the importance of public libraries as a vital source of information for urban and rural communities. We face the danger in the emerging 21st century of millions of Americans becoming part of the "information poor" -- those who could be left out of the new electronic communications world we envision. We need to be sure that all people, including those who historically have been among the underserved in our diverse population, have the opportunity to access the advanced technologies offered. Linking public schools and libraries to the NII would accomplish this goal.

It is my hope that you will give this proposal your full consideration. I believe the proposal would improve equality of opportunity and promote full participation for every American.

Sincerely,

MAJOR R. OWENS
Member of Congress

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

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July 27, 1994

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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Suite 814
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to add my enthusiastic support of the comments you recently received from five education and library organizations in response to the matter before the Federal Communications Commission on "Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers" (CC Docket 94-1).

Briefly, the education and library organizations propose that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) redirect the Consumer Productivity Dividend to a program designed to benefit schools and libraries through plans mutually agreed upon by all parties. They recommend, in this context, that the approximately \$300 million a year available through the dividend be allocated to a special account against which the Local Exchange Carriers would charge investments made in educational and library infrastructure in their telephone service territories.

I believe the proposal offers a cost-effective, sensible approach which could greatly further the Administration's worthy goal to connect every classroom and library to the National Information Infrastructure by the year 2000.

As Chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, I have supported a variety of measures before both my Committee and other Committees which would help assure that schools and libraries reap the full benefits of the rapidly changing technologies which are influencing all aspects of modern life.

Specifically, the Education and Labor Committee recently guided to enactment the Goals 2000 legislation in which the Congress endorsed a process which would reform education by driving improvements systemically, whether the improvements concerned teaching, learning or the conception of education generally. Following enactment of the Goals bill, the House of

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Page 2
July 27, 1994

Representatives passed the comprehensive education bill to extend Elementary and Secondary Education Act programs. This bill also includes a broad new initiative to spur greater use of educational technology in schools and libraries all across the country. Even though the legislation has yet to be enacted, the Appropriations Committee has signaled its willingness to set aside a small amount of funds should the program be enacted, which is remarkable given the fiscal restraints being dealt with this year. Clearly, there is a strong desire to include schools and libraries as participants in the information infrastructure because of the clear link between the development of the National Information Infrastructure (NII) and the types of educational changes envisioned in these major education initiatives.

The NII promises to provide schools and libraries with the ability to tap into vast stores of information, to get in touch with other classes and teachers to compare information and share experiences. This potential will only be realized, however, if appropriate public policies are put in place at every step of the way.

I am familiar with, and appreciate, your personal interest in making the National Information Infrastructure accessible to the public, in part, by making it affordable for schools and libraries. I hope you will give the proposal submitted by the education and library organizations your full consideration as a way to leverage public policy to stimulate private investment in the NII and in the process benefitting two fundamental underpinnings of our democracy.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William D. Ford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "W" and "F".

WILLIAM D. FORD
Chairman

WDF:jmm

HISPANIC ASSOCIATION ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

March 6, 1995

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Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR) would like to strongly encourage you, Commissioner Barrett, Chong, Ness and Quello to support the proposal filed by the American Library Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Education Association, and the National School Boards Association. Their filing asks that the FCC redirect the Consumer Productivity Dividend (CPD) to help connect schools and libraries to the NII.

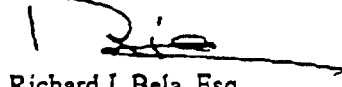
HACR is a coalition of the largest national Hispanic organizations in the U.S., as listed on our stationary. The leadership of these organizations compose the board of directors of HACR. Our mission is to ensure the Hispanic Community equitable participation in Corporate America, commensurate with its contribution and emerging potential.

Through this network of organizations, HACR represents over seventy percent of all Hispanic American households, all of whom are concerned about equity of learning opportunities for students of all ages. For many, the barrier to equity is primarily economic: the expenses of access to telecommunications technology. We believe that the coalition's proposal is an appropriate use of regulatory incentive to benefit consumers, especially those in disadvantaged areas, who will shape the future of our nation.

When we met with the coalition, we asked that they stipulate in the second, more detailed, FCC proceeding that proportional representation of a state's pluralistic student population be included on the Board of Stakeholders that would be overseeing the process in each state; that notification about the credit bank opportunity to all public schools and libraries in each state be required, and that preference be given to areas in most need of assistance. We ask for your support for these recommendations and for the coalition's innovative solution. Please encourage the other Commissioners to consider it seriously.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our views.

Sincerely,


Richard J. Bela, Esq.
President

cc: FCC Commissioners
William F. Caton, Secretary to FCC

Re: CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap
Performance Review for Local
Exchange Carriers: EX PARTE



IDAHO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 8533
Moscow, ID 83843

FILE 001

MAR 16 1995

March 10, 1995

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Suite 814
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing on behalf of the Idaho Library Association to express our support for the proposal "Prince Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers" which was submitted by the Education and Library Alliance to connect all libraries to the National Information Infrastructure.

Our association's members, 650 librarians, trustees, and friends of libraries, know that libraries are a vital source of information for our predominately rural citizens. Many of our libraries serve citizens who could easily become left out of the new information structure. Our association works to ensure that all Idaho citizens, including those in rural areas, have access to all information. We believe that linking our libraries and school to the NII would be a step to achieve this access.

Please consider this important proposal.

Yours truly,

Karen Strege
President
Idaho Library Association

cc: Secretary William Caton



LARAMIE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

2800 CENTRAL AVENUE
CHEYENNE, WYOMING • 82001-2799

library • (307) 634-3561
administration • (307) 635-1032
fax • (307) 634-2082

MAR 10 1995

March 7, 1995

William A. Caton
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am writing to request your support of the Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers: Ex Parte (CC Docket 94-1). This plan will be of great benefit to public libraries and schools.

Wyoming public and academic libraries are connected statewide via a computer system. The next step is for us to connect to the information superhighway. This initiative would help us reach that goal.

Wyoming has few people and great distances. Technology expands our resources and horizons providing a direct benefit to the public we serve. Please support CC Docket 94-1 and help us further connect with the world.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lucie P. Osborn
County Librarian



MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

MAR 20 1995

FILE COPY

1-800-452-8786

Local Government Center • 37 Community Drive • Augusta, Maine 04330 • (207) 623-8428

March 16, 1995

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Suite 814
Washington, DC 10554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Maine Library Association strongly endorses the use of rate price cap funds to assist libraries in connecting to the emerging National Information Infrastructure (NII) (CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers). This plan would put equity in the information super highway. As libraries are wired and begin to offer new services, millions of people will be able to access new information and emerging services through their local libraries.

Here in Maine we have spent the last year planning for a statewide library information network that will eventually provide affordable access for all Maine's citizens to global information resources. Concurrently, the Maine Library Association and the Maine Educational Media Association is sponsoring legislation to connect libraries and communities electronically, and has assumed intervenor status in rate negotiations involving NYNEX and the Public Utilities Commission. At the national level and the local level affordable access to the information super highway is a pressing concern.

On behalf of the Maine Library Association I enthusiastically support this proposal for "consumer productivity dividends" which is part of the FCC's current review of price cap regulations. Please make every effort to provide these credits for telecommunications to public and school libraries.

Sincerely,

Valerie Osborne, President
Maine Library Association

VAO/dm

cc: Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness
Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Andrew C. Barrett
William A. Caton, Secretary of the Federal Communications Commission



Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North & South Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Wyoming

Mountain Plains Library Association

copy

March 10, 1995

Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Mountain Plains Library Association strongly supports the "Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers" (CC Docket 94-1) submitted by the Education and Library Alliance to facilitate the connection of schools and libraries to the National Information Infrastructure.

The eleven states comprising the MPLA region—from Nevada to Oklahoma and Arizona to Montana--represents nearly one-fourth of the continental area of the United States, with many citizens living in rural areas and small-towns with long distances between them. These have long been areas typically under-served by information providers. In addition, this region is served by many rural, local telephone companies which may not choose to make the technological investments necessary to assure that schools and libraries are connected to the Information Superhighway without these incentives. For these reasons, we consider this proposal vital to our region.

We, therefore, request that you give this innovative proposal your full consideration to help assure that all citizens, regardless of where they live, will have access to the advancing information technologies that promise to revolutionize communication and the dissemination of information.

Sincerely,

Blaine H. Hall
President, Mountain Plains
Library Association



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Serving All Elementary and Middle School Principals

August 9, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Suite 814
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), I am writing to express our support for the use of rate price cap funds to help schools benefit from emerging telecommunications technologies. Specifically, we are interested in the redirection of the Consumer Productivity Dividend (CPD) to a program designed to benefit education and libraries.

It is my understanding that some \$300 million would be available through the CPD each year. Reserving this money strictly for use by schools and libraries would help them gain access to many new technological innovations that can greatly enhance teaching and learning.

It is crucial that schools and libraries be included in the National Information Infrastructure (NII). As you know, the Administration has made known its goal of having every classroom and library connected to the NII by the year 2000. If this goal is not achieved, the gap between the "haves" and "have nots" will become even wider and many thousands of the nation's young people will be left behind.

Now is the time to make a stand for equity. Now is the time to take action to ensure that every child in this nation is given real opportunities to learn. The redirection of CPD funds to a special education and library fund will help to make this a reality and provide our young people with the tools they will need in order to compete in the marketplace.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. NAESP looks forward to working with you on other issues of mutual concern.

Sincerely yours,

Sally N. McConnell
Director of Status and Advocacy

November 9, 1994

Commissioner Andrew C. Barrett
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Hawaii

Susan Massey
Oregon

RE: CC Docket 94-1: Price Cap Performance Review for Local
Exchange Carriers: "Ex Parte."

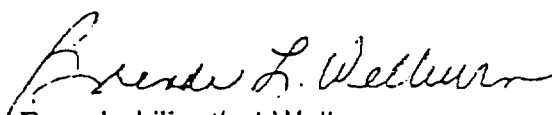
Dear Commissioner Barrett:

The National Association of State Boards of Education, representing state and territorial boards of education who are responsible for the educational interests of more than forty three million students in public schools and post-secondary institutions, wishes to express our support for the Reply Comments filed with the Commission on June 29, 1994, regarding "Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers," cc Docket 94-1.

As the nation moves into the 21st Century it is essential that all children through their schools, libraries and other education institutions be connected to the National Information Infrastructure (NII). The proposal submitted by the American Library Association with the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Education Association, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the National School Boards Association is a sound recommendation for meeting the tremendous challenge of bringing educational institutions into the NII and improving the academic achievement of our nation's schoolchildren.

We hope that you will give this proposal your full consideration and support the further development of a nationwide, quality education for all children.

Sincerely,



Brenda Lilienthal Welburn
Executive Director

1012 Cameron Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

703-684-4000
FAX 703-636-2313

Brenda Lilienthal Welburn
Executive Director

TOTAL P.02